



# The National Geodetic Survey



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NGS defines and manages the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS) - the framework for latitude, longitude, height, scale, gravity, orientation, and shoreline throughout the United States. NSRS provides the foundation for transportation, communication, and defense systems, boundary and property surveys, land record systems, mapping and charting, public utilities, coastal management, natural resource mapping, and numerous scientific and engineering applications. NGS also conducts research to improve the collection, distribution, and use of spatial data.

NGS conducts aerial photography surveys near airports in the United States and its possessions to position obstructions and aids to air travel. It maps the coastal regions of the United States and its possessions to position the shoreline and other features needed to construct navigational charts.

NGS provides Federal leadership in developing standards and specifications for conducting geodetic surveys, coordinates the development and use of new surveying methods, and conducts outreach activities including training workshops held throughout the United States and an advisory program conducted with several states.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
National Ocean Service  
National Geodetic Survey

The National Geodetic Survey (NGS) defines and manages the National Spatial Reference System, which determines position, height, distance, direction, gravity, and shoreline throughout the United States. Since 1807 NGS and its predecessor agencies have led the world in precise positioning and developed emerging technologies for the public. NGS provides its expertise and a wealth of free information, including direct access to its data base, on the World Wide Web at: [www.ngs.noaa.gov](http://www.ngs.noaa.gov)

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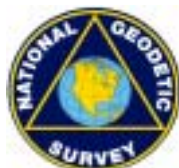
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